

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated May 10, 2006 (U.S. Patent Office Paper No. 20060504). In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to proceed with examination of the application on the merits, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner in the above-mentioned Office Action alleges that the present application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species: I (claims 1-5) and II (claims 6-19).

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action, Applicants hereby elect the continued prosecution of the invention identified as Group II, set forth in claims 6-19, without traverse. Applicants understand that the non-elected inventions and their corresponding claims are hereby withdrawn from further consideration in this pending application. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file divisional applications on such non-elected inventions. Applicants respectfully submit that the inventorship of non-elected claims remains unchanged.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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